

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:JBKUBISCH:CJS

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

S/S:WHLUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 136133

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BR

SUBJECT: LETTER TO FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA FROM SECRETARY

KISSINGER

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM SECRETARY
KISSINGER TO FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE:

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR ANTONIO: THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR
YOUR LETTER OF JUNE 20, 1974 ON THE SUBJECT OF BRAZILIAN
FOOTWEAR EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES. I WAS GLAD THAT
YOU WROTE AND EXPRESSED YOUR VIEWS TO ME PERSONALLY. THEY
WERE OF HELP TO ME IN MY OWN DISCUSSIONS WITH TREASURY
SECRETARY SIMON TO WHOM I HAVE SPOKEN ON THIS SUBJECT.

3. I QUITE AGREE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS MATTER AND
BELIEVE WE SHOULD HAVE THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE CONSULTATIONS
IN TRYING TO FIND A SOLUTION. I AM HOPEFUL THAT THIS CAN
BE DONE AND WANT YOU TO KNOW HOW MUCH WE HAVE APPRECIATED
THE RECENT COOPERATION OF BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES IN PROVIDING
PERTINENT INFORMATION TO OUR OFFICIALS AND PARTICIPATING
IN MEETINGS TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION.

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4. SECRETARY SIMON HAS TOLD ME, HOWEVER, THAT HE HAS

VIRTUALLY NO DISCRETION IN THIS MATTER. HE SAYS THAT THE

LAW IN THE UNITED STATES REQUIRES HIM TO IMPOSE A COUNTER-VAILING DUTY IF A SO-CALLED "BOUNTY OR GRANT" IS FOUND TO EXIST. A LAWSUIT HAS ALREADY BEEN BROUGHT AGAINST HIM REQUIRING THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT TO FULFILL ITS ENFORCEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES.

5. I RECOGNIZE THAT SUCH AN ACTION WOULD WORK AT CROSS-PURPOSES TO WHAT YOU AND I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH BOTH IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AND IN THE OVERALL INTER-AMERICAN CONTEXT. THAT IS WHY I HAVE ASKED SECRETARY SIMON TO DO EVERYTHING HE CAN TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF OTHER ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. HE HAS ASSURED ME THAT HE WILL DO SO, INSOFAR AS HE CAN, AND DURING MY ABSENCE ON THIS TRIP I HAVE LEFT INSTRUCTIONS WITH JACK KUBISCH TO WORK UNCEASINGLY WITH TREASURY DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AND BRAZILIAN REPRESENTATIVES ON THE PROBLEM.

6. I WAS VERY SORRY NOT TO BE ABLE TO SEE AMBASSADOR ARAUJO CASTRO OVER THIS PAST WEEKEND TO RECEIVE YOUR LETTER AND DISCUSS IT WITH HIM PERSONALLY. HOWEVER, AS A RESULT OF MY PREPARATIONS FOR THIS TRIP AND A NUMBER OF LAST MINUTE DEMANDS ON MY TIME THE MEETING JUST COULD NOT BE WORKED OUT. HOWEVER, I DO WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I AM DOING EVERYTHING I CAN TO TRY AND FIND A SATISFACTORY MEANS OF DEALING WITH THIS PROBLEM. WITH WARMEST REGARDS, HENRY. END TEXT. SISCO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, TRADE COMPLAINTS, SHOES, COUNTERVAILING DUTIES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, EXPORT SUBSIDIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE136133
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JBKUBISCH:CJS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740166-1128
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740615/aaaaampx.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 SEP 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <24 FEB 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LETTER TO FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA FROM SECRETARY KISSINGER
TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, BR, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (SILVEIRA, ANTONIO AZEREDO DA),
To: BRASILIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005